In regard to the first he said that at present they were unable to give the necessary education to their children as they were very poor and had engaged themselves in bread-winning pursuits. He said that scholarships and fee concessions should be given to them as were being given to certain communities, in respect of both school and collegiate education. The artisans of Kerala were able to produce articles which elicited the admiration of the traders of Madras and Europe. He therefore urged that the Government ought to help them to improve their material condition. When scholars were sent to foreign countries to be trained in any art, candidates should be selected from members of his community. He requested that some at least of those who had passed examinations should be recruited to the public service. He referred also to certain impediments to their educational progress.

He requested that members of their community should in future be addressed as "Visvabrahmanas", comprising "Acharies" and other sub-castes, as recently ordered by the Madras Government, and that orders should be issued to the Education and other Departments to that effect.

He requested that a statement might be obtained from the Education Department showing the number of qualified men from their community who had applied for teachers' posts and the number appointed. He referred to one of their women entertained in that department who was superseded by her junior, though she was qualified for promotion.

He said that an Inspector of Co-operative societies might be appointed from their community to disseminate knowledge regarding the advantages of such societies, in which case many Co-operative Societies would, he felt sure, be started among them. He also requested that one from among them might be given a post in the Huzur Office and another either in the Police or in the Excise Department.

151. Help to the Kammala community by the nomination of representatives to the Assembly and by the award of grants to cottage industries.

Mr. Nilakantan Muttanandam (Member, Nominated) represented that, in view of the fact that his community numbered over a lakh of persons, representatives should be nominated to the Assembly from their community in proportion to their population. He said that, owing to their inability till now to represent their grievances to Government, some other communities had stolen a march over them in material prosperity. He said that it was impossible for them to be returned to the Assembly by the open door of election.

He further requested that members be nominated from his community to the Panchayat courts and Municipal Councils and to the committee appointed for considering matters relating to cottage industries, as most of such industries were now pursued by the members of his community.

President's reply.—In regard to fee concessions, at present Kammalas are regarded as a backward class so far as English education is concerned and the rules do provide for the grant of fee concessions to that community. The other points mentioned in your representation will be considered and disposed of separately.

152. Needs of Arayas.

Mr. K. Velayudhan (Member, Nominated) said that the people of the Karunagapalli and Kartikapalli taluks who lived close to the sea were suffering very much for want of good drinking water and requested that arrangements be made for the supply of drinking water to those people. It was very hard for those people to leave their homes and go to the interior to get water. If the Government were to give him the same reply as was given to Mr. Ramankunju when he brought up that subject as a resolution before the Legislative Council, he doubted whether the persons affected could get drinking water at any time.

The Member next said that the members of the Araya community should be afforded additional occupational facilities on the lines adopted by the Madras Labour Department. He stated that the orders of he Government to grant an extent of 10 cents of land to each landless family of the Araya community on concessional terms was not being properly worked, as would be seen from the answers given to certain interpellations on the subject in the Legislative Council. It was very difficult for

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poor persons to secure the benefit intended to be conferred by the above order owing to the irregularities of the low-paid subordinates of the Revenue Department. He therefore suggested that, if the scheme of providing lands to poor Arayas should materialise, it should be worked through the agency and responsibility of the Co-operative Department.

The Member also brought to the notice of the Government that, although the Hill Arayas were being allowed to cultivate lands within the reserved forests, they had no right to such lands, and he feared that, in course of time, when more lands were wanted to meet the demands of an ever-increasing population, the Hill Arayas would be ousted from those lands. To safeguard the interests of the Arayas against such a contingency, the Member requested that early steps might be taken to recognise the right of possession of the Arayas to the lands which they were allowed to cultivate.

Another point touched upon by the Member was about the coastal lands in the Karunagapalli and Kartikapalli taluks. Those lands inhabited by the Araya fishermen were being gradually washed away by the sea and considerable areas of land had so disappeared in the course of the past 12 years. Such process of submersion had reduced many a rich land-owner to abject poverty and the material prosperity of the community as a whole was being steadily undermined. He observed that, when the produce of the lands failed, the Government were in the habit of remitting the land tax due thereon, but he was not aware of a single instance in which the Government had given compensation for lands wholly washed away by the sea. He prayed that lists of such of the lands as had been washed away by the sea during the past 30 years in the Mutukulam *pakuthi* of the Kartikapalli taluk and the Patupalli *pakuthi* of the Karunagapalli taluk might be prepared and compensation awarded to the respective land-owners for the loss sustained by them on account of sea erosion.

He next requested that pupils from the Araya community be awarded scholarships. The community, as a whole, was very backward in education and wealth. Under the term "Arayan" were included Valan, Marakkan, Nulayan and other classes similarly situated. The fact that there was not a single graduate among those communities would indicate the depth of ignorance and illiteracy among them, solely due to their poverty. The average earnings of a man per month at Alleppey amounted only to Rs. 6-12-2 during 1098 as stated in the report of the Fisheries Department. It was in view of such poverty that they were given half-fee concessions. The Member prayed that, besides continuing that concession, the Government might institute at least 5 scholarships in English schools to be held by their children.

In speaking on the needs of the Arayas, the Member represented that in order to afford greater facilities to the fisherfolk for educating their children, more fishery schools should be opened and that the Arayas trained at Government cost in the Fishery Institute at Calicut should be appointed as teachers in those schools to be placed under the control of the Fisheries Department.

President's reply.—In regard to the award of scholarships to the boys and girls of your community, your community is, as you yourself have admitted, included among those who are backward in point of both English and Vernacular education for purposes of half-fee concession. The question of scholarships is now under the consideration of Government.

As regards the special fishery school required by you, it is seen that there are at present two such schools, one at Panavalli and the other at Arur. There is also a night school at Kuzhittura. Besides the above, a private school under the management of the Sri Padmanabha Vilasa Co-operative Society is also conducted at Alleppey, and in this school weaving and other subjects are being taught and Arayas are employed as teachers. The Government are affording every possible encouragement to such institutions.

Member.—We want additional schools.

President.—The matter will be considered.

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